UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE United States Patent and Trademark Office Address: COMMISSIONER FOR PATENTS P.O. Box 1450 Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1450 www.uspto.gov

NOTICE OF ALLOWANCE AND FEE(S) DUE

21186

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08/31/2009

SCHWEGMAN, LUNDBERG & WOESSNER, P.A. P.O. BOX 2938
MINNEAPOLIS, MN 55402

EXAMINER

BLAN, NICOLE R

ART UNIT PAPER NUMBER

1792 DATE MAILED: 08/31/2009

APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
10/681,481	10/08/2003	Paul A. Farrar	1303.112US1	7468

TITLE OF INVENTION: METHOD OF CLEANING SEMICONDUCTOR SURFACES

APPLN. TYPE	SMALL ENTITY	ISSUE FEE DUE	PUBLICATION FEE DUE	PREV. PAID ISSUE FEE	TOTAL FEE(S) DUE	DATE DUE
nonprovisional	NO	\$1510	\$300	\$0	\$1810	11/30/2009

THE APPLICATION IDENTIFIED ABOVE HAS BEEN EXAMINED AND IS ALLOWED FOR ISSUANCE AS A PATENT. PROSECUTION ON THE MERITS IS CLOSED. THIS NOTICE OF ALLOWANCE IS NOT A GRANT OF PATENT RIGHTS. THIS APPLICATION IS SUBJECT TO WITHDRAWAL FROM ISSUE AT THE INITIATIVE OF THE OFFICE OR UPON PETITION BY THE APPLICANT. SEE 37 CFR 1.313 AND MPEP 1308.

THE ISSUE FEE AND PUBLICATION FEE (IF REQUIRED) MUST BE PAID WITHIN THREE MONTHS FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS NOTICE OR THIS APPLICATION SHALL BE REGARDED AS ABANDONED. THIS STATUTORY PERIOD CANNOT BE EXTENDED. SEE 35 U.S.C. 151. THE ISSUE FEE DUE INDICATED ABOVE DOES NOT REFLECT A CREDIT FOR ANY PREVIOUSLY PAID ISSUE FEE IN THIS APPLICATION. IF AN ISSUE FEE HAS PREVIOUSLY BEEN PAID IN THIS APPLICATION (AS SHOWN ABOVE), THE RETURN OF PART B OF THIS FORM WILL BE CONSIDERED A REQUEST TO REAPPLY THE PREVIOUSLY PAID ISSUE FEE TOWARD THE ISSUE FEE NOW DUE.

HOW TO REPLY TO THIS NOTICE:

I. Review the SMALL ENTITY status shown above.

If the SMALL ENTITY is shown as YES, verify your current SMALL ENTITY status:

A. If the status is the same, pay the TOTAL FEE(S) DUE shown above.

B. If the status above is to be removed, check box 5b on Part B - Fee(s) Transmittal and pay the PUBLICATION FEE (if required) and twice the amount of the ISSUE FEE shown above, or

If the SMALL ENTITY is shown as NO:

A. Pay TOTAL FEE(S) DUE shown above, or

B. If applicant claimed SMALL ENTITY status before, or is now claiming SMALL ENTITY status, check box 5a on Part B - Fee(s) Transmittal and pay the PUBLICATION FEE (if required) and 1/2 the ISSUE FEE shown above.

II. PART B - FEE(S) TRANSMITTAL, or its equivalent, must be completed and returned to the United States Patent and Trademark Office (USPTO) with your ISSUE FEE and PUBLICATION FEE (if required). If you are charging the fee(s) to your deposit account, section "4b" of Part B - Fee(s) Transmittal should be completed and an extra copy of the form should be submitted. If an equivalent of Part B is filed, a request to reapply a previously paid issue fee must be clearly made, and delays in processing may occur due to the difficulty in recognizing the paper as an equivalent of Part B.

III. All communications regarding this application must give the application number. Please direct all communications prior to issuance to Mail Stop ISSUE FEE unless advised to the contrary.

IMPORTANT REMINDER: Utility patents issuing on applications filed on or after Dec. 12, 1980 may require payment of maintenance fees. It is patentee's responsibility to ensure timely payment of maintenance fees when due.

PART B - FEE(S) TRANSMITTAL

Complete and send this form, together with applicable fee(s), to: Mail Mail Stop ISSUE FEE

Commissioner for Patents P.O. Box 1450 Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1450

or <u>Fax</u> (571)-273-2885

INSTRUCTIONS: This form should be used for transmitting the ISSUE FEE and PUBLICATION FEE (if required). Blocks 1 through 5 should be completed where

Note: A certificate of mailing can only be used for domestic mailings of Fee(s) Transmittal. This certificate cannot be used for any other accompany papers. Each additional paper, such as an assignment or formal drawing, related to mailing or transmission. SCHWEGMAN, LUNDBERG & WOESSNER, P.A. P.O. BOX 2938 MINNEAPOLIS, MN 55402 Note: A certificate of mailing can only be used for domestic mailings of Fee(s) Transmittal. This certificate cannot be used for any other accompany papers. Each additional paper, such as an assignment or formal drawing, related to mailing or transmission. Certificate of Mailing or Transmission I hereby certify that this Fee(s) Transmittal is being deposited with the Unstate Postal Service with sufficient postage for first class mail in an envel addressed to the Mail Stop ISSUE FEE address above, or being facsing transmitted to the USPTO (571) 273-2885, on the date indicated below. (Depositor's net (Signal)	appropriate. All further indicated unless correcte maintenance fee notifical	correspondence includired below or directed other	ng the Patent, advance on herwise in Block 1, by (a	rders and notification of a) specifying a new co	of maintenance respondence a	fees will be idress; and/o	mailed to the current or (b) indicating a sepa	correspondence address as arate "FEE ADDRESS" for	
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SCHWEGMAN, LUNDERG & WOESSNER, P.A. P.O. BOX 2938 MINNEAPOLIS, MN 55402 Bereby certify that this Fee(s) Transmittal is being deposited with the try in transmitted to the USPTO (571) 273-2885, on the date indicated befowers transmitted to the USPTO (571) 273-2885, on the date indicated befowers transmitted to the USPTO (571) 273-2885, on the date indicated befowers transmitted to the USPTO (571) 273-2885, on the date indicated befowers the part of the transmitted to the USPTO (571) 273-2885, on the date indicated befowers the part of the date indicated befowers the part of the USPTO (571) 273-2885, on the date indicated befowers the part of the USPTO (571) 273-2885, on the date indicated befowers the part of the USPTO (571) 273-2885, on the date indicated befowers the part of the USPTO (571) 273-2885, on the date indicated befowers the part of the USPTO (571) 273-2885, on the date indicated befowers the part of the USPTO (571) 273-2885, on the date indicated befowers the part of the part of the USPTO (571) 273-2885, on the date indicated befowers the part of the USPTO (571) 273-2885, on the date indicated befowers the part of the part of the USPTO (571) 273-2885, on the date indicated befowers the part of the USPTO (571) 273-2885, on the date indicated befowers the part of the USPTO (571) 273-2885, on the date indicated befowers the part of the USPTO (571) 273-2885, on the date indicated befowers the part of the USPTO (571) 273-2885, on the date indicated befowers the part of the USPTO (571) 273-2885, on the date indicated befowers the part of the USPTO (571) 273-2885, on the date indicated befowers the part of the USPTO (571) 273-2885, on the date indicated befowers the part of the USPTO (571) 273-2885, on the date indicated befowers the part of the USPTO (571) 273-2885, on the date indicated befowers the part of the USPTO (571) 273-2885, on the date indicated befowers the part of the USPTO (571) 273-2885, on the date indicated befowers the part of the part o	21186	7590 08/31	/2009	1.	ave its own eer		<u> </u>	unical an	
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□ Issue Fee □ A check is enclosed. □ Publication Fee (No small entity discount permitted) □ Payment by credit card. Form PTO-2038 is attached. □ The Director is hereby authorized to charge the required fee(s), any deficiency, or credit any overpayment, to Deposit Account Number □ (enclose an extra copy of this form status indicated above) □ a. Applicant claims SMALL ENTITY status. See 37 CFR 1.27. □ b. Applicant is no longer claiming SMALL ENTITY status. See 37 CFR 1.27(g)(2). NOTE: The Issue Fee and Publication Fee (if required) will not be accepted from anyone other than the applicant; a registered attorney or agent; or the assignee or other part interest as shown by the records of the United States Patent and Trademark Office. Authorized Signature □ Date □ Registration No. □ This collection of information is required by 37 CFR 1.311. The information is required to obtain or retain a benefit by the public which is to file (and by the USPTO to proceed).	Please check the appropri	iate assignee category or	categories (will not be pi	rinted on the patent):	Individual	☐ Corporat	ion or other private gro	oup entity Government	
Publication Fee (No small entity discount permitted) Advance Order - # of Copies	_	are submitted:	41		-	ply any pre	viously paid issue fee	shown above)	
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This collection of information is required by 37 CFR 1.311. The information is required to obtain or retain a benefit by the public which is to file (and by the USPTO to procum application. Confidentiality is governed by 35 U.S.C. 122 and 37 CFR 1.14. This collection is estimated to take 12 minutes to complete, including gathering, preparing, submitting the completed application form to the USPTO. Time will vary depending upon the individual case. Any comments on the amount of time you require to compare the complete dependence of the compare to the user to compare	• • •				_				
this form and/or suggestions for reducing this burden, should be sent to the Chief Information Officer, U.S. Patent and Trademark Office, U.S. Department of Commerce, 100 per	This collection of inform an application. Confident submitting the completed his form and/or suggesti	ation is required by 37 C tiality is governed by 35 I application form to the ions for reducing this but	FR 1.311. The informatic U.S.C. 122 and 37 CFR USPTO. Time will vary rden, should be sent to th	on is required to obtain 1.14. This collection is depending upon the in the Chief Information Of	or retain a bene estimated to ta dividual case. A ficer, U.S. Pate	fit by the pub ke 12 minute Any commen nt and Trader	olic which is to file (and s to complete, includir ts on the amount of ti- mark Office, U.S. Dep	by the USPTO to process) g gathering, preparing, and me you require to complete artment of Commerce, P.O.	

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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.	
10/681,481	10/08/2003	Paul A. Farrar	1303.112US1	7468	
21186 7590 08/31/2009 SCHWEGMAN, LUNDBERG & WOESSNER, P.A.			EXAMINER		
			BLAN, N	ICOLE R	
P.O. BOX 2938			ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER	
MINNEAPOLIS, MN 55402			1792		
			DATE MAILED: 08/31/2009		

Determination of Patent Term Adjustment under 35 U.S.C. 154 (b)

(application filed on or after May 29, 2000)

The Patent Term Adjustment to date is 573 day(s). If the issue fee is paid on the date that is three months after the mailing date of this notice and the patent issues on the Tuesday before the date that is 28 weeks (six and a half months) after the mailing date of this notice, the Patent Term Adjustment will be 573 day(s).

If a Continued Prosecution Application (CPA) was filed in the above-identified application, the filing date that determines Patent Term Adjustment is the filing date of the most recent CPA.

Applicant will be able to obtain more detailed information by accessing the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) WEB site (http://pair.uspto.gov).

Any questions regarding the Patent Term Extension or Adjustment determination should be directed to the Office of Patent Legal Administration at (571)-272-7702. Questions relating to issue and publication fee payments should be directed to the Customer Service Center of the Office of Patent Publication at 1-(888)-786-0101 (571)-272-4200.

	Application No.	Applicant(s)	
	 10/681,481	FARRAR, PAUL A.	
Notice of Allowability	Examiner	Art Unit	
	NICOLE BLAN	1792	
	NIOOLL BLAN	1132	
The MAILING DATE of this communication appeal all claims being allowable, PROSECUTION ON THE MERITS IS herewith (or previously mailed), a Notice of Allowance (PTOL-85) NOTICE OF ALLOWABILITY IS NOT A GRANT OF PATENT RI	(OR REMAINS) CLOSED or other appropriate comr IGHTS. This application is	in this application. If not included nunication will be mailed in due course. THIS	e
1. This communication is responsive to 6/12/2009.			
2. X The allowed claim(s) is/are <u>1-4,7,9-11,14,16,17,20,22-25,4</u>	11,42 and 44-46.		
 3.) or (f).	
2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have		ion No	
3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority does			
International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).			
* Certified copies not received:			
Applicant has THREE MONTHS FROM THE "MAILING DATE" noted below. Failure to timely comply will result in ABANDONN THIS THREE-MONTH PERIOD IS NOT EXTENDABLE.		le a reply complying with the requirements	
4. A SUBSTITUTE OATH OR DECLARATION must be subm INFORMAL PATENT APPLICATION (PTO-152) which give			
5. CORRECTED DRAWINGS (as "replacement sheets") mus	st be submitted.		
(a) ☐ including changes required by the Notice of Draftspers	on's Patent Drawing Revi	ew (PTO-948) attached	
1) ☐ hereto or 2) ☐ to Paper No./Mail Date			
(b) ☐ including changes required by the attached Examiner's Paper No./Mail Date	s Amendment / Comment	or in the Office action of	
Identifying indicia such as the application number (see 37 CFR 1 each sheet. Replacement sheet(s) should be labeled as such in t			
6. DEPOSIT OF and/or INFORMATION about the depo attached Examiner's comment regarding REQUIREMENT			
Attachment(s) 1. ☐ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)	5 🗆 Notice of	nformal Patent Application	
 Induce of References Cited (PTO-692) Induce of Draftperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) 		Summary (PTO-413),	
3. ☑ Information Disclosure Statements (PTO/SB/08),	Paper No	o./Mail Date s Amendment/Comment	
Paper No./Mail Date <u>06122009</u>	_		
 Examiner's Comment Regarding Requirement for Deposit of Biological Material 	8. ⊠ Examiner 9. □ Other	s Statement of Reasons for Allowance	
	9. 🔲 Otilei	_ '	

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REASONS FOR ALLOWANCE

1. The amendments to claims 1, 11, 16, 22 and 41 as well as the cancellation of claims 6 and 15 in the response filed on June 12, 2009 have been acknowledged.

- 2. In view of the cancellation of claim 15, the previous claim objection is withdrawn.
- 3. In view of the cancellation of claim 6, the previous rejection under 35 U.S.C. 112, first paragraph is withdrawn.
- 4. In view of the amendments to the claims, the previous rejection under 35 U.S.C. 112, second paragraph is withdrawn.
- 5. The terminal disclaimer filed on June 12, 2009 disclaiming the terminal portion of any patent granted on this application which would extend beyond the expiration date has been reviewed and is accepted. The terminal disclaimer has been recorded.
- 6. Claims 1-4, 7, 9-11, 14, 16, 17, 20, 22-25, 41, 42 and 44-46 are allowed.
- 7. The following is an examiner's statement of reasons for allowance:

Jackson (U.S. Patent 5,013,366) is the closest prior art of record. Jackson does not fairly anticipate or suggest a semiconductor cleaning method with the combination of processing steps as claimed, specifically including brushing the semiconductor surface concurrently with the gas bubble formation caused by changing a thermodynamic condition of the supercritical fluid adjacent to the semiconductor surface.

The search conducted by the examiner has not indicated more relevant documents. Thus, the art of record does not fairly teach or suggest including brushing the semiconductor surface concurrently with the gas bubble formation caused by changing a thermodynamic condition of the supercritical fluid adjacent to the semiconductor surface.

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Any comments considered necessary by applicant must be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee and, to avoid processing delays, should preferably accompany the issue fee. Such submissions should be clearly labeled "Comments on Statement of Reasons for Allowance."

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to NICOLE BLAN whose telephone number is (571)270-1838. The examiner can normally be reached on Monday - Thursday 8-5 and alternating Fridays 8-4.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Michael Cleveland can be reached on 571-272-1418. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see http://pair-direct.uspto.gov. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free). If you would like assistance from a USPTO Customer Service Representative or access to the automated information system, call 800-786-9199 (IN USA OR CANADA) or 571-272-1000.

/Nicole Blan/ Examiner, Art Unit 1792

/Michael Cleveland/ Supervisory Patent Examiner, Art Unit 1792 Application/Control Number: 10/681,481

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